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Wednesday, January 16, 1952

Red O'Hare and I arrived at Notre Dame at nine this morning for Marshal de Lattre's funeral. The cathedral was jammed -- amongst the pall bearers were Eisenhower and Montgomery.

After an hour's mass, with superb music, most of the diplomatic corps followed hundreds of others who had attended the service, on foot to the Place des Invalides, which we reached about noon. I became thoroughly chilled, since, not anticipating the procession, I was lightly dressed. The day was clear but cold.

Pleven made an excellent eulogy at the Invalides. There was a review of many military units. I felt deeply for Madame de Lattre, who had been, as it were, on exhibition all morning, and indeed for some days previously. She is a noble, beautiful woman. Walking alone for miles between the massed, respectful crowd must have been an additional and terrible ordeal for her.

We left the Invalides after two o'clock and René

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Pleven came home to lunch with me. We had a long and interesting talk about politics. He thinks Edgar Faure will get the necessary vote for investiture as Prime Minister to-morrow. Pleven does not want to join his cabinet. He wishes to have a short rest, and to be free to speak, especially in the European Army debate, without any ministerial restrictions.

Webster Todd, a partner of Ellery Huntington, came to see me this afternoon. Then I went to the EDF steering committee meeting. Much progress has been made latterly, but Van Zeeland shows no signs of sympathy. The Belgian Government has fallen, but he will retain his post as Foreign Minister in the new one to be constituted.

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